

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are currently pending in the application. Independent claim 12 has been amended to specify that the media base includes a policy engine. The language is the same as that recited in independent claim 1. Therefore, entry of the above amendments after Final Rejection is proper because the subject matter of the amendments has already been searched and evaluated by the Examiner with respect to pending claim 1. No new issues are raised for the Examiner's consideration.

Applicants have amended the specification to correct a typographical error with respect to a Figure number. No new matter has been introduced.

Claims 1-23 stand provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-16 of co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/820,666, which is assigned to the assignee of the present application. Applicants again respectfully traverse the double patenting rejection to the extent it may be presently applied to the claims. The Examiner indicates in the Office Action that the rejection may be overcome by the filing of a terminal disclaimer. Applicants respectfully submit that the allegedly conflicting claims in the co-pending application have not yet issued and, therefore, respectfully decline to file a terminal disclaimer at this time.

Claims 1-23 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,120,250 ("Candelore"). Applicants respectfully submit that Candelore does not teach every limitation recited in independent claims 1 and 12.

Independent claims 1 and 12 recite, in part, a protected media path comprising a media base including a policy engine that enforces policy on behalf of each source, the policy corresponding to the content from the source and including rules and requirements for accessing and rendering the content; a source trust authority (SOTA) associated with and corresponding to each source of content, each SOTA acting as a secure lockbox connecting the source to the media base, decrypting the content from the source, and translating policy associated with the content from a native format into a format amenable to the policy engine; and a sink trust authority (SITA) associated with and corresponding to each sink of content, each SITA acting as a secure lockbox connecting the sink to the media base, encrypting content to be delivered to the sink, and translating the policy associated with the content from

the format of the policy engine into a format amenable to the sink, whereby the sink receives the content and corresponding policy, decrypts the received content, and renders same based on the received policy. As stated in the present specification:

[A]lthough the format of the content 12 and associated policy may vary from source 30 to source 30, the media base can handle such content 12 and associated policy because each source 30 has a corresponding SOTA 38 which decrypts the content 12 if necessary and translates the associated policy from the aforementioned native format into the aforementioned format amenable to the policy engine 34. Likewise, although the format of the content 12 and associated policy may vary from sink 32 to sink 32, the media base can handle such content 12 and associated policy because each sink 32 has a corresponding SITA 40 which encrypts the content 12 if necessary and translates the associated policy from the aforementioned format amenable to the policy engine 34 into the format amenable to the sink 32.

(*Specification* at ¶ [0043]). Thus, embodiments of the claimed invention define a protected media path for content from any of a plurality of systems to be delivered to any of a plurality of destinations (*Specification* at ¶ [0013]).

In contrast, Candelore discloses a system that enables a digital content provider to supply content under multiple digital rights management (DRM) schemes without the need to fully encrypt the content for each DRM system, thereby saving storage capacity (by avoiding the need to store multiple copies of fully encrypted content) and processing power (by avoiding the need to encrypt content on the fly) (Candelore at col. 8, ll. 64-67; col. 9, ll. 1-4). More specifically, selected portions of a content file stored in a content database 130 of a digital content provider 104 are duplicated and encrypted under an encryption arrangement consistent with DRM A in one case and consistent with DRM B in the other (*Id.* at col. 4, ll. 58-61; col. 5, ll. 9-12; FIG. 2). The file is then downloaded or streamed to a customer, who can play back the content on a computer 112 or another playback device after the content is decrypted according to a DRM scheme that is associated with the customer's playback software and/or playback machine and that supports DRM A or DRM B (*Id.* at col. 7, ll. 18-19 and 58-60). Thus, the customer is afforded a wide range of content without the need to purchase or load multiple DRM systems and media players on his or her personal computer since multiple DRMs can be readily accommodated by the content provider 104 at low cost (*Id.* at col. 9, ll. 4-9). However, the customer will not be able to playback the content from

the content provider 104 unless at least one of the encrypted content portions is supported by the customer's DRM system. For example, if the customer's DRM system only supports DRM C, the customer will not be able to playback content from the content provider 104 that is encrypted according to DRM A and DRM B.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Candelore does not disclose a protected media path comprising *a source trust authority (SOTA) associated with and corresponding to each source of content*, each SOTA acting as a secure lockbox connecting the source to the media base, decrypting the content from the source, and *translating policy associated with the content from a native format into a format amenable to the policy engine*, and *a sink trust authority (SITA) associated with and corresponding to each sink of content*, each SITA acting as a secure lockbox connecting the sink to the media base, encrypting content to be delivered to the sink, and *translating the policy associated with the content from the format of the policy engine into a format amenable to the sink*, whereby the sink receives the content and corresponding policy, decrypts the received content, and renders same based on the received policy.

The Examiner contends in the Office Action that FIG. 7 in Candelore teaches the SOTA and the SITA as recited above (*see* Office Action dated November 21, 2006 ("Office Action") at pages 7 & 8). Applicants respectfully disagree. FIG. 7 is a flow chart depicting the acquisition and playback of content having multiple DRM schemes (Candelore at col. 2, ll. 52-54). As noted above, upon downloading the content, the customer can playback the content from the content provider 104 if at least one of the encrypted content portions is supported by the customer's DRM system. FIG. 7 does not disclose a SOTA translating policy associated with the content from a native format into a format amenable to the policy engine and a SITA translating the policy associated with the content from the format of the policy engine into a format amenable to the sink, whereby the sink receives the content and corresponding policy, decrypts the received content, and renders same based on the received policy. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is improper and should be withdrawn.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1 and 12 patentably define over the cited reference and are, therefore, allowable. As claims 2-11 depend from claim 1, and claims 13-23 depend from claim 12, Applicants further

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submit that the dependent claims are likewise allowable. Accordingly, reconsideration of the present application and issuance of a Notice of Allowability are respectfully requested. In the event that the Examiner cannot allow the present application for any reason, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney, Michael P. Dunnam at (215) 564-8962, to discuss the resolution of any remaining issues.

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